

23 December 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Howard M. Ehrmann  
Chief, CIA Historical Staff

25X1 SUBJECT : [REDACTED]

1. This memorandum is to formalize in writing the substance of our several recent conversations. We both are in complete agreement on the urgent necessity of commencing work on the SAVA history. My problem has been the inevitable one of finding someone sufficiently well qualified to undertake the task who can be spared from his regular duties for increments of time of sufficient extent to be worthwhile.

25X1 2. As we have discussed in our conversations, a partial solution to this problem is now feasible. One of my associates, [REDACTED] careerist -- is retiring on 31 December 1971. He came to this staff two years ago [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] He has a long experience in Far Eastern affairs (having also been, among other things, [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] He is an excellent, perceptive analyst and organizer of material and he writes very well.

25X1 3. My recommendation, as we have discussed, would be to retain [REDACTED] through the balance of this fiscal year (after his 31 December retirement) as a consultant or (if you or Colonel White prefer) an independent contractor and task him with reviewing our files, organizing the pertinent material therein and doing at least the basic first cut at drafting this staff's history. I am neutral on the issue of consultant vs independent contractor, though to my untutored eye the former status would seem to be the more flexible and equitable for both parties.

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4. I doubt if [ ] alone could complete the SAVA history in six months, but he could do the essential spadework and get the project launched to the point where others could pitch in or pick up efficiently on perhaps a part-time basis. He seems to me to be particularly well qualified for this endeavor which is why I recommend this course of action as a move toward accomplishing the task we both want to see properly initiated as soon as feasible.

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George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

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1 - GAC Chrono  
1 - Personnel

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